



COLORADO CROP PROGRESS

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
COLORADO FIELD OFFICE
P.O. BOX 150969 · Lakewood, CO 80215-9966



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Bill Meyer
(800) 392-3202

CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION MONTH OF DECEMBER 2021

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Exceptionally dry and warm weather persisted across several counties during the month of December, according to the Mountain Region Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Productive snowstorms during the latter half of December brought moisture to western counties and the high country, greatly boosting snowpack. Eastern counties remained very dry but received beneficial moisture at the end of December. Low temperatures below zero were noted. Overall, the entire state remained in moderate to severe drought, according to the latest U.S. Drought Monitor report. Drought conditions worsened in eastern counties and livestock producers continued to utilize winter grazing arrangements where available. Concerns remained for fall-seeded crops and pasture conditions due to severe lack of precipitation. In southwestern counties, reporters noted snow and rain caused muddy conditions. The San Luis Valley remained very dry and warm during December. According to county reports, mild weather and lack of snow allowed livestock to remain pastured longer than normal. Producers continued to provide feed supplements due to poor range conditions. Statewide, winter wheat condition declined with 25 percent of the crop rated good to excellent, compared to 38 percent good to excellent from the previous report and 19 percent good to excellent last year. As of January 1, 2022, snowpack in Colorado was 123 percent measured as percent of median snowfall.

Note: Monthly reports will be released for January on Monday, January 24, 2022; and for February on Tuesday, February 22, 2022.

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

	Current report	Previous report	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Topsoil moisture				
Very short.....	48	50	33	NA
Short.....	36	34	44	NA
Adequate	11	16	23	NA
Surplus.....	5	--	--	NA
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	34	51	35	NA
Short.....	31	22	48	NA
Adequate	30	27	17	NA
Surplus.....	5	--	--	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

Commodity	Current report	Previous report	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Pasture and range				
Very poor	14	22	29	NA
Poor.....	21	18	36	NA
Fair.....	32	25	29	NA
Good	25	28	6	NA
Excellent	8	7	--	NA
Winter wheat				
Very poor	11	10	15	NA
Poor.....	22	23	19	NA
Fair.....	42	29	47	NA
Good	25	35	18	NA
Excellent	--	3	1	NA
Livestock				
Very poor	--	4	1	NA
Poor.....	6	9	6	NA
Fair.....	15	26	33	NA
Good	71	43	49	NA
Excellent	8	18	11	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero